Revisiting the regnal years of Emperor Aparajitavarma Pallava

Earliest known Chola Inscription in the Pallava territory was considered to be the 20th regnal year inscription of Aditya Chola I(871 – 907 CE). Since Pallava Aparajitavarman's 20th regnal year inscription is available, his regnal year is considered to be 871 – 890 CE.

At Tiruvannamalai Arunachaleswarar Temple, oldest inscription(A.R.No.476-A of 1902) found is the 13th regnal year inscription of Chola King Aditya Chola I dated 883 CE. In addition, his 14th and 17th regnal year inscriptions are found in Tiruvannamalai district, right at the heart of the Pallava Country. Donor of the Tiruvannamalai inscription is Gunamanthan Kurumbakolalan alias Vayiramega Vanakovarayar, who is none other than the maternal grandfather of Gandaraditya Chola.

In light of the above facts,

1)Regnal year of Pallava king Aparajitavarman should be modified as 863 – 882 CE.

2)Regnal years of Pallava kings Kambavarman and Nripatungavarman should be updated accordingly.

3)Year of the Pallava Inscriptions A.R.No.158 and 161 of 1912 featuring Vayiramega Vanakovarayar should be updated as 866 CE.